



Merry Christmas

Jesus said, "I have come that they might have life and life to the full."
 "Zoé" is the Greek word for overflowing and abundant life in Christ found in John 10:10

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Give thanks with a grateful heart. What an understatement when it comes to knowing what God has done for us. He sent His Son, to live, to die, and to rise again. Then He gave us the gift of salvation and restored us to a right relationship with Him! Thanks doesn't seem to be a big enough word. Yet, here we are at a time of year that acknowledges giving thanks to God and remembering Jesus' birth. So, we dedicate this year in review to the many things that we are thankful for. All of which are directly effected by you, because of your giving, praying, and caring. It is in the name of our risen, generous Saviour, and only by the abundant grace of God we present these areas of thankfulness. Therefore, we boldly boast of God's goodness. You should too, because you are a part of it. Thank you, thank you, thank you. Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas.



I am enjoying all of the opportunities that come with living in America, like theatre and music programs. I'm reaching out to my classmates and friends more through actions and less words. I am showing them Jesus' love the best I can. This is really the most difficult mission field I have ever been on because of all the stereotypes my fellow teens create about believers. But God loves them just as much as He does all of my cute little Filipino friends. I'm determined to show them that they have not been forgotten and are also loved.

Thankful for...



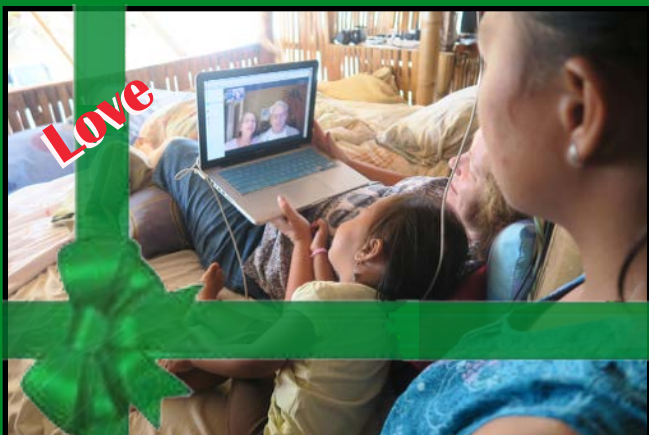
It seems slow when I am in the middle of an idea trying make it happen. But one day I look up and see God's ideas and inspiration in front of me. Kids are climbing, jumping, swimming and playing games. We are so thankful for all of the help from the neighbors and from you to continue to grow. More land has been given for us to use. More workers are able to help and provide for their families. This growth is by God's grace and your continued support and prayers.

We are so thankful for all of your faithfulness in giving and in prayers. We never have to worry about our home, food, or clothes. Pictured here, we are on our new, used scooter that we really needed and God provided it without us asking. Some faithful friends in the US asked us if they could get us a new scooter. We have had people call and ask us if they can be a part of what God is doing. It is so humbling and awesome to watch God work and we are so blessed to have you in our lives making a difference.



As great as this growth is it brings about some wonderful problems. One is having to be in three places at once. So God has provided some amazing helpers to do what we can't. Pictured here is our nightly feeding of around 30 kids. The ladies read bible stories, ask questions about what it means, and how they can apply it to their life. We are so grateful for the new leaders and helpers that God is raising up, and by His grace, is allowing us to pour into their lives.

We are thankful and amazed at God's faithfulness, His power, His words, His promises, more decisions to follow Jesus, and more baptisms. Since we live in a fishing village we are able to step outside, walk into the ocean, and baptize them. It really is a public statement of their faith because it is in front of their neighbors, friends, and family, and whoever happens to be fishing at the time. There are so many times it seems like the words that we speak make little difference, but we are thankful that God's words always make a difference. He gets all the glory because there is no way we could do all of this.



We do get lonely sometimes even though we are surrounded by people. It sounds odd, but it is true. We are so thankful for your emails, Skype, and phone calls. Many times those words help get us through that day. We cannot express enough how much we love you and thank God that you are in our lives. You have been so faithful in such hard times and many times I feel that we are not worthy of so much. This is a picture of most of our family Skyping our dear friends and board members. They were sharing with us and we were catching up with what was going on in each other's lives. We cannot thank you enough for all that you have done, all that you do, and all that you continue to allow the Lord to do through you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

Merry Christmas!
Love,
Mark,
Patti &
Bekah